



NEXT
LEVEL

15+
TEEN

2



YOUNG
CORONA
BEAULIEU

ALL IN



Written and drawn by JAMAL CAMPBELL

NEXT
LEVEL

APRIL

ZATANNA #1



THE GREATEST TOUR IN MAGIC BEGINS!

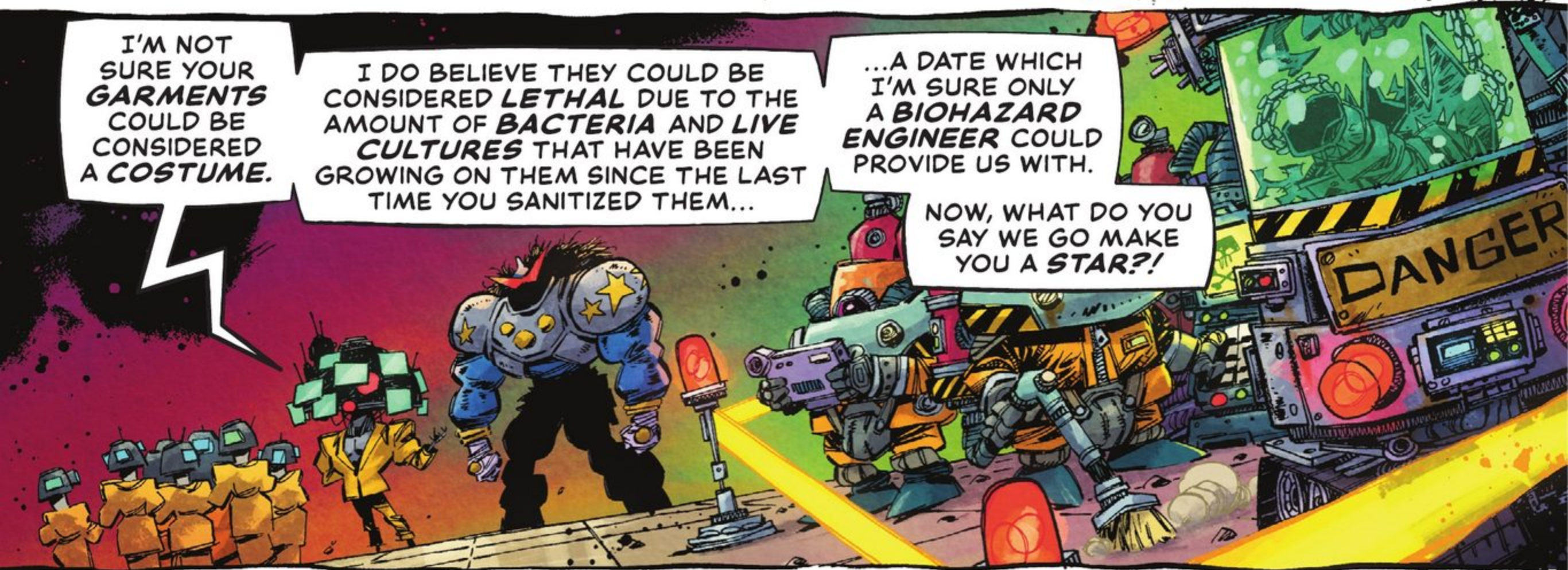
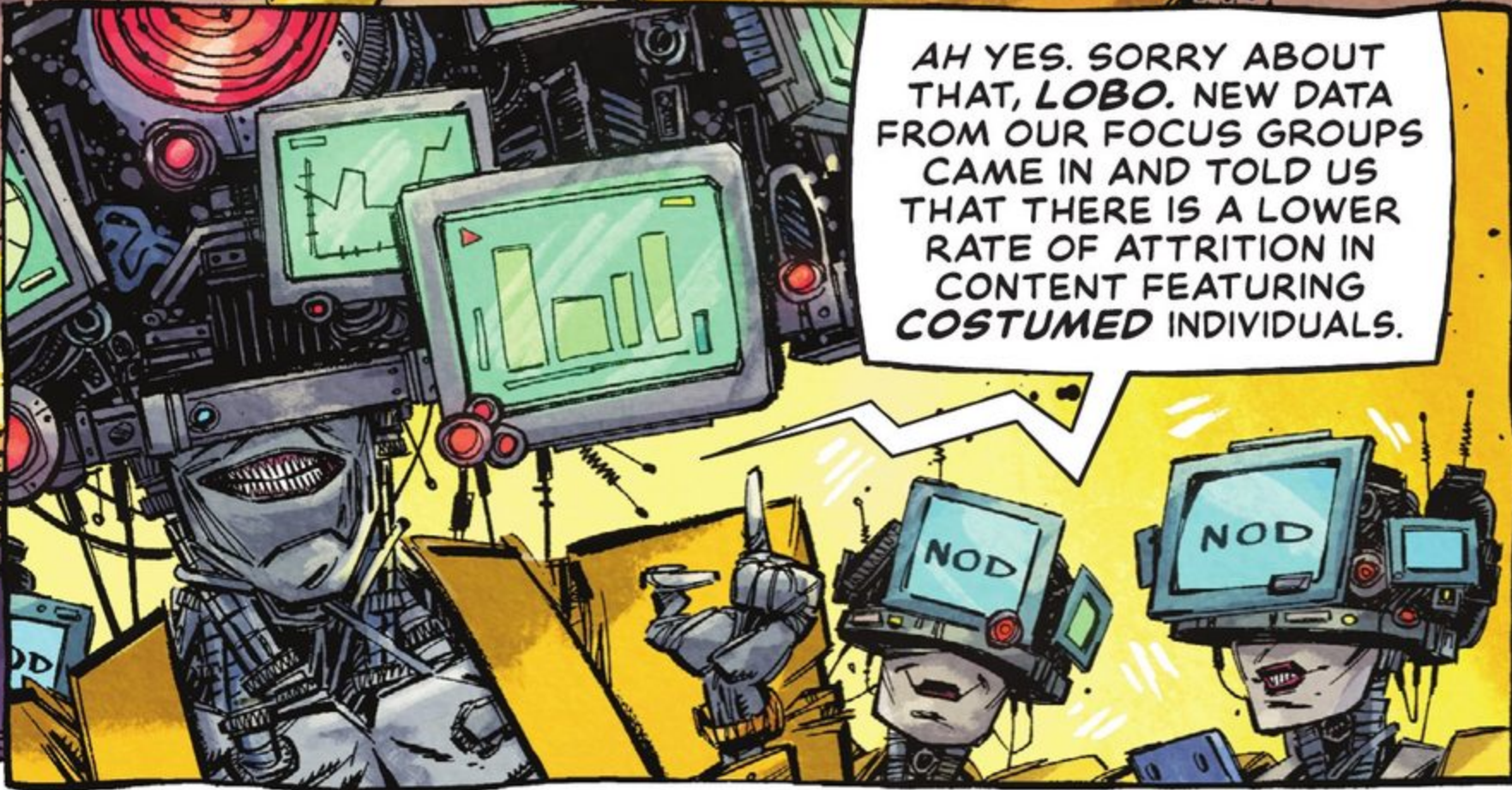


HELLO,
MR. LOBO.

ON BEHALF
OF MR. KZZT
AND OMNI OMEGA+
ENTERTAINMENT
CORP., WELCOME TO
YOUR OFFICIAL
MAKEOVER!



AHHHHH,
MY FINEST
WORK
YET!



LIXTON BLIND. AN ABANDONED BRUTANIUM FACTORY CITY NOW MOSTLY USED AS HEADQUARTERS AND HIDEOUTS FOR THE SCOURGE OF THE SOUTHEASTERN GALAXIES.

SPACE
CRIME
ALLEY

KZZT, ARE YOU GONNA BE FOLLOWIN' ME AROUND ALL THE TIME IN THERE? 'CAUSE I AIN'T A BIG FAN OF BRASS BALLS IN MY FACE ALL DAY. OR ANY PART OF THE DAY.

YES. THIS IS HOW WE'LL FILM ALL YOUR ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNICATE WITH YOU. NO NEED FOR ON-SITE PRODUCERS OR CAMERAMEN. JUST ME AND THE BRASS BALLS, AS YOU PUT IT.

THIS IS THE LOCATION OF YOUR FIRST BOUNTY. STARTING OFF SIMPLE WITH A CLEAR-CUT BAIL JUMPER NAMED--

BRUMMER JIP. I KNOW 'EM. BOUNTED HIM A FEW TIMES.



CUT,
CUT,
CUT!

WHADDYA MEAN CUT? LIKE CUT 'EM INSTEAD OF SHOOT 'EM IF THEY DON'T COME ALL WILLIN' AND WHATNOT?

MY APOLOGIES. WE VERY MUCH WANT YOU TO BE AUTHENTICALLY YOU BUT LEGAL JUST INFORMED US THAT YOU MUST KNOCK AND ANNOUNCE YOURSELF BEFORE RESORTING TO A FORCED ENTRY.

KNOCKIN'
ONLY GIVES
THEM TIME TO
GET A HEAD
START ON
ESCAPIN'.

BUT
HEY, YOU'RE
PAYIN' ME ENOUGH
TO KEEP MY **YEARS'**
WORTH 'A **BOUNTY**
EXPERTISIN' TO
MYSELF.

THUNK!

THANK YOU FOR
UNDERSTANDING. IF YOU
COULD JUST READ THE
APPROVED STATEMENT,
THEN THAT SHOULD
COVER US.

BRUMMER JIP, YER
HEREBY INFORMED THAT
A BOUNTY HAS BEEN PUT
ON YOU FOR FAILURE TO
APPEAR IN COURT FOR THE
23 FELONIES YOU'VE BEEN
CHARGED WITH. REFUSAL
WILL RESULT IN ME **COMIN'**
THE FRAG IN GUN
A BLAZIN'!

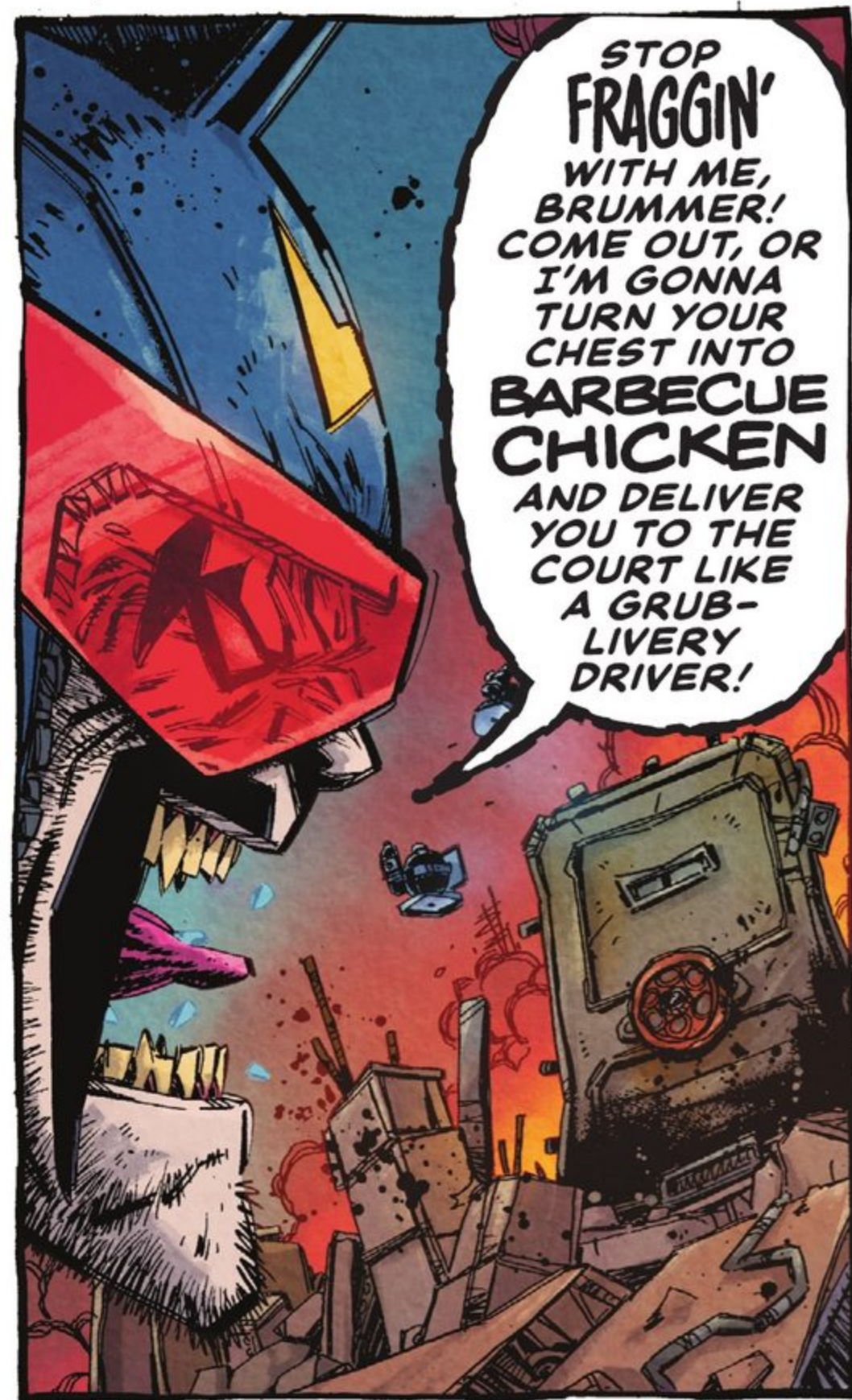
I ADDED
THAT LAST PART
IN FOR A BIT OF
FLAVOR.

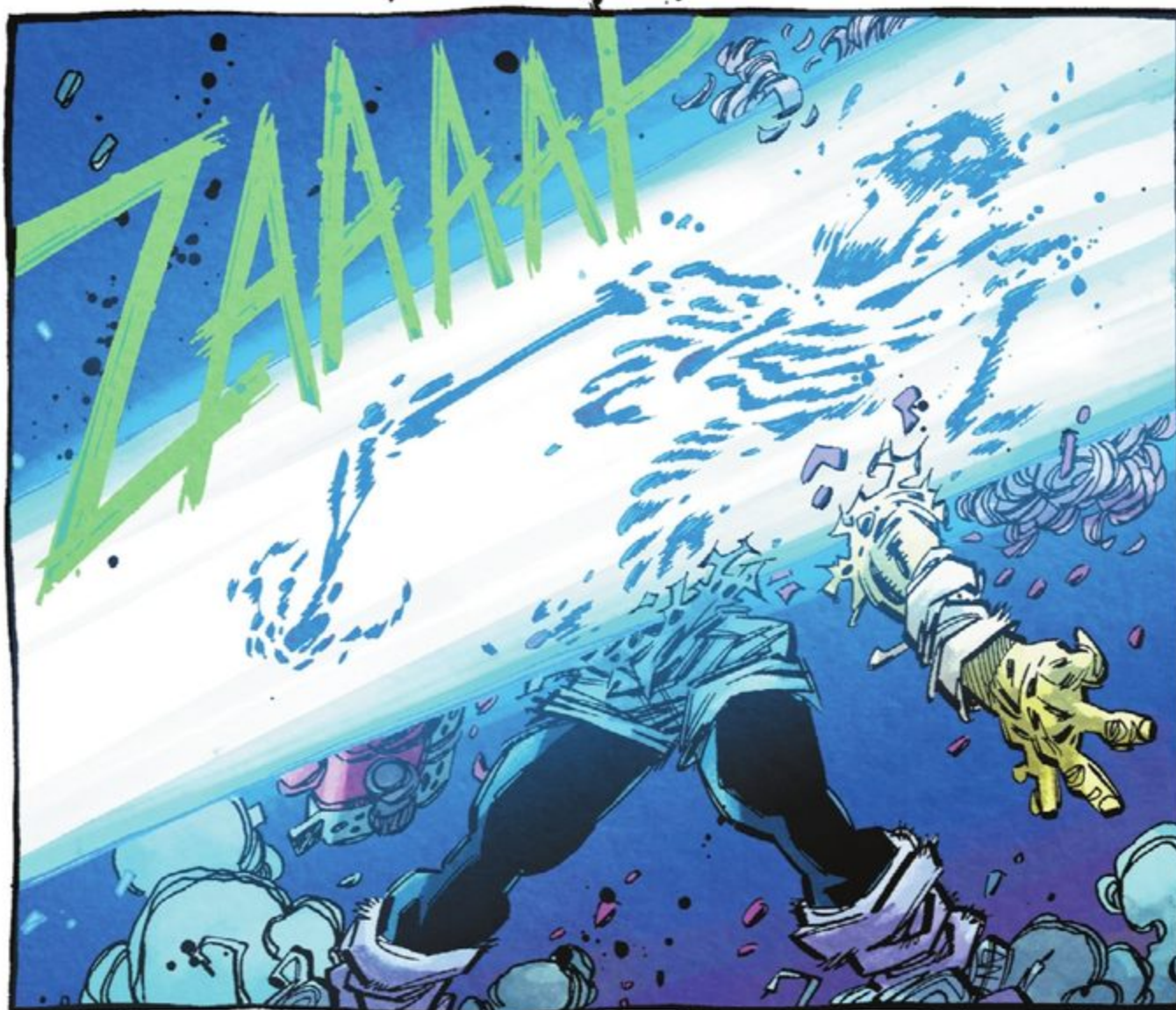
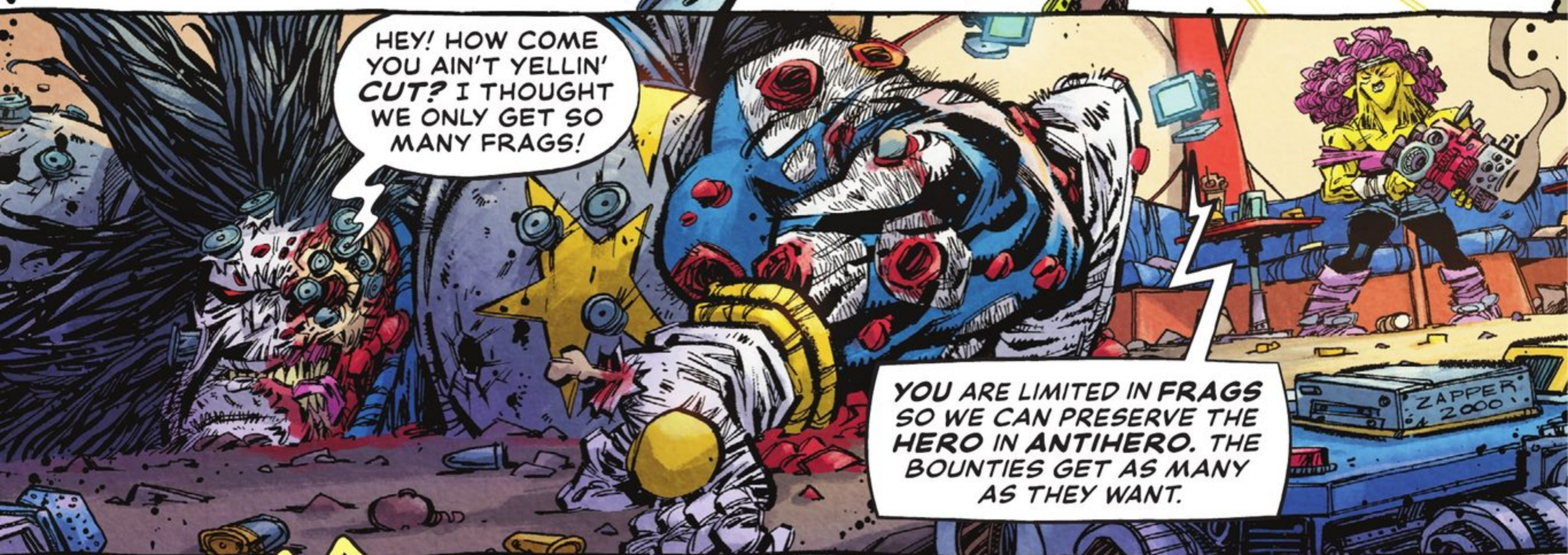
YEEEEAAAAH. WHILE WE LOVE
IMPROVISATION FOR THE SAKE
OF BLOOPERS TO BE SOLD AS
EXTRAS DOWN THE ROAD, WE
NEED YOU TO STICK TO THE
PROVIDED GUIDELINES.

AND PLEASE,
REMEMBER
THAT WE'RE
ONLY ALLOWED A
LIMITED NUMBER
OF **FRAG** USES
PER SEASON.

RIGHT.

THANK YOU FOR
UNDERSTANDING.
LET'S TRY IT
AGAIN.









THANK YOU
FOR JOINING
US, LOBO.



THE BOARD AND I WOULD
LIKE TO SHARE OUR
GRATITUDE FOR ALL THE
HARD WORK YOU'VE PUT IN
FOR THE SHOW, AND WANTED
TO SHARE SOME OF THE
DATA WE'VE GATHERED.

MR. FRXXT,
WOULD YOU LIKE
TO TAKE IT FROM
HERE?



I'D LOVE
TO, MR. KZZT.
THANK YOU.

FISTY CLAWS
AND **MURDER MOUTH**
ARE STILL OUTPERFORMING
US IN JUST ABOUT EVERY
DEMOGRAPHIC WE CURRENTLY
MEASURE. AFTER FURTHER
ANALYZATION, WE'VE
DISCOVERED WHAT WE
BELIEVE TO BE THE
REASON.

WOULD YOU
LIKE TO KNOW
WHY?



NOT
REALLY, BUT
I'M SURE YOU'RE
GONNA VOMIT A
BUNCH A NUMBERS
AND STATS AT ME
ANYWAY, SO DO
YOUR THING.



OH, MR.
LOBO. YOU
ARE A
HOOT!

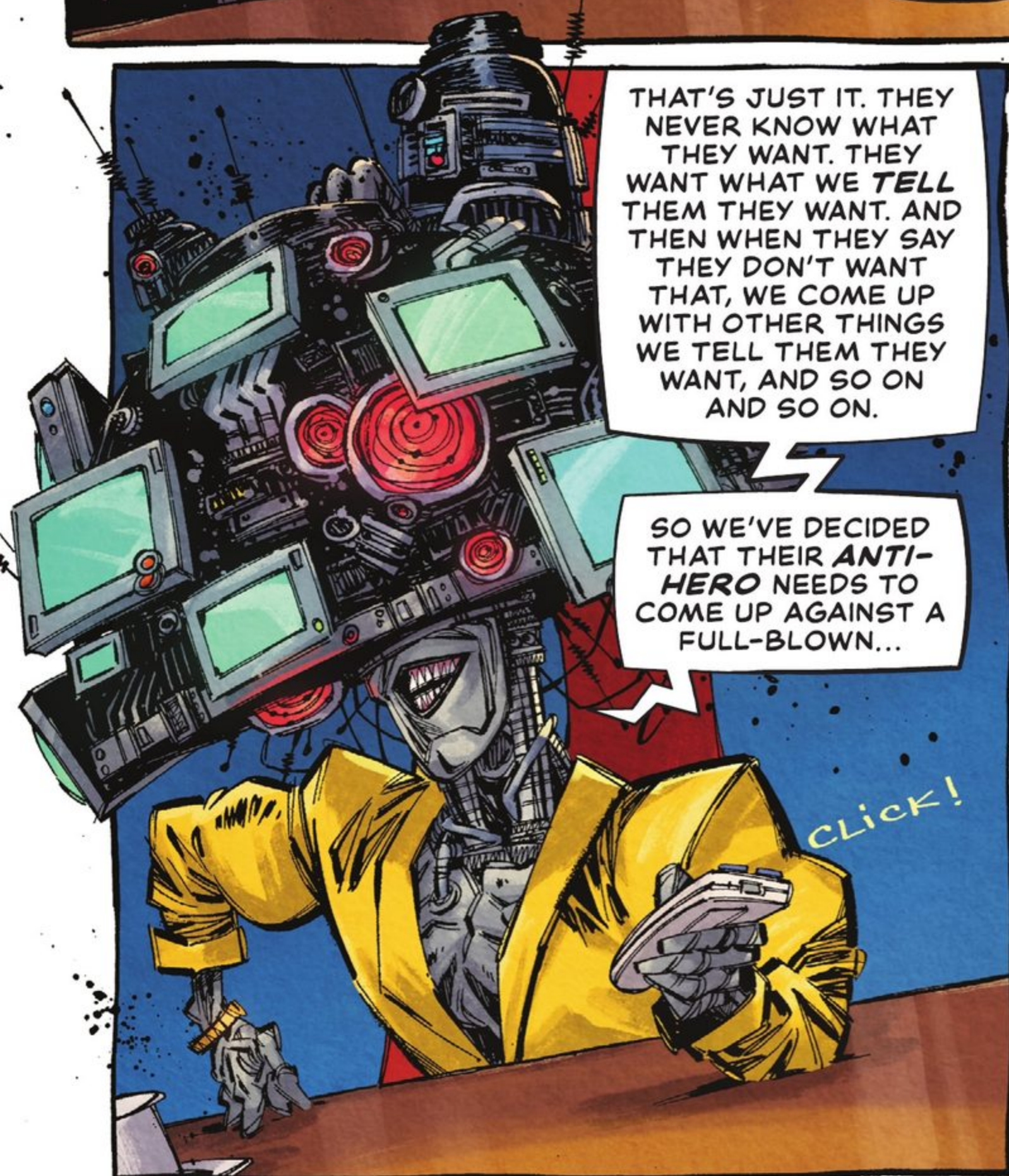
TYPICALLY, WE BREAK
NUMBERS DOWN INTO THE
STANDARD ENTERTAINMENT
INDUSTRY DETERMINED AGE
RANGES SUCH AS 18-24,
25-34, 35-99, AND
100-INFINITE.

BUT YOU
HAVE DEFIED
THAT STRUCTURE,
AS ALL AGE GROUPS
FROM YOUNGEST TO
UNKNOWN OLDER
AGREE THAT WHILE
THEY LOVE YOU,
THEY WANT...



...A
LITTLE LESS
YOU.

WHAT DO
THEY WANT
INSTEAD OF THE
MAIN MAN?



THAT'S JUST IT. THEY
NEVER KNOW WHAT
THEY WANT. THEY
WANT WHAT WE **TELL**
THEM THEY WANT. AND
THEN WHEN THEY SAY
THEY DON'T WANT
THAT, WE COME UP
WITH OTHER THINGS
WE TELL THEM THEY
WANT, AND SO ON
AND SO ON.

SO WE'VE DECIDED
THAT THEIR **ANTI-
HERO** NEEDS TO
COME UP AGAINST A
FULL-BLOWN...

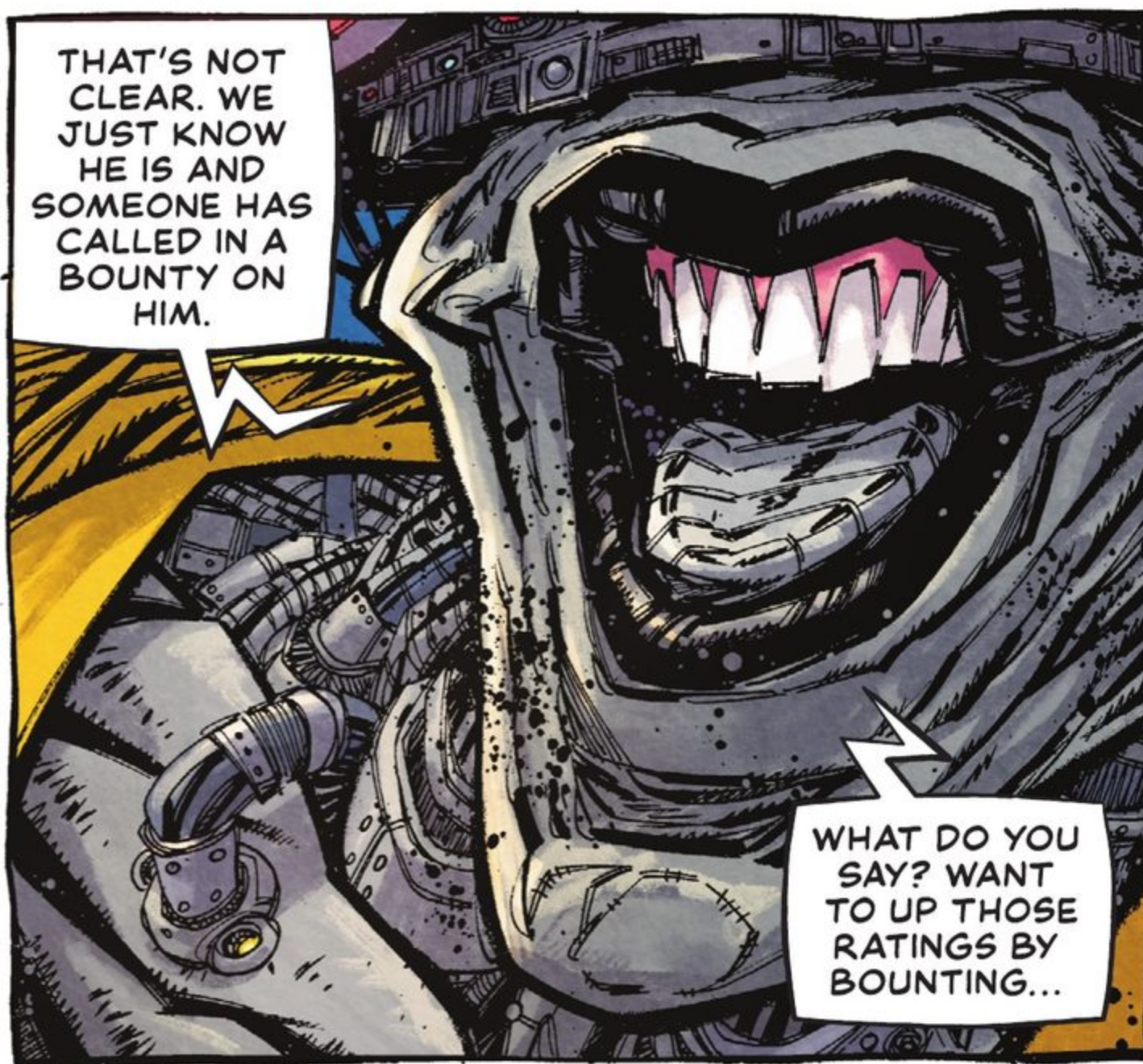
CLICK!



...HERO.



WHAT'S
THIS **FUNKY
FISH SUNNOFOVA
CARP** DOING ALL
THE WAY OUT
HERE?



THAT'S NOT
CLEAR. WE
JUST KNOW
HE IS AND
SOMEONE HAS
CALLED IN A
BOUNTY ON
HIM.

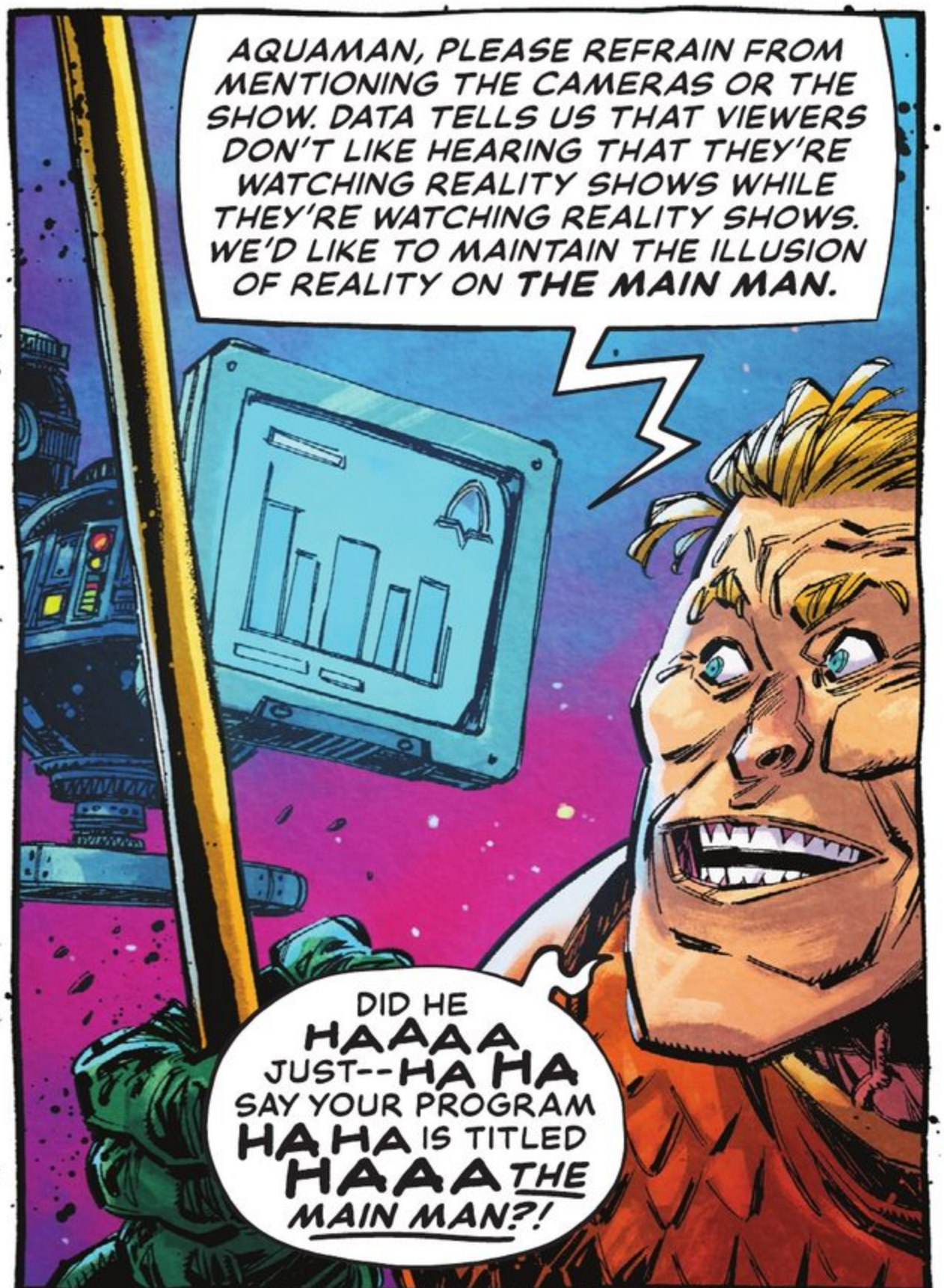
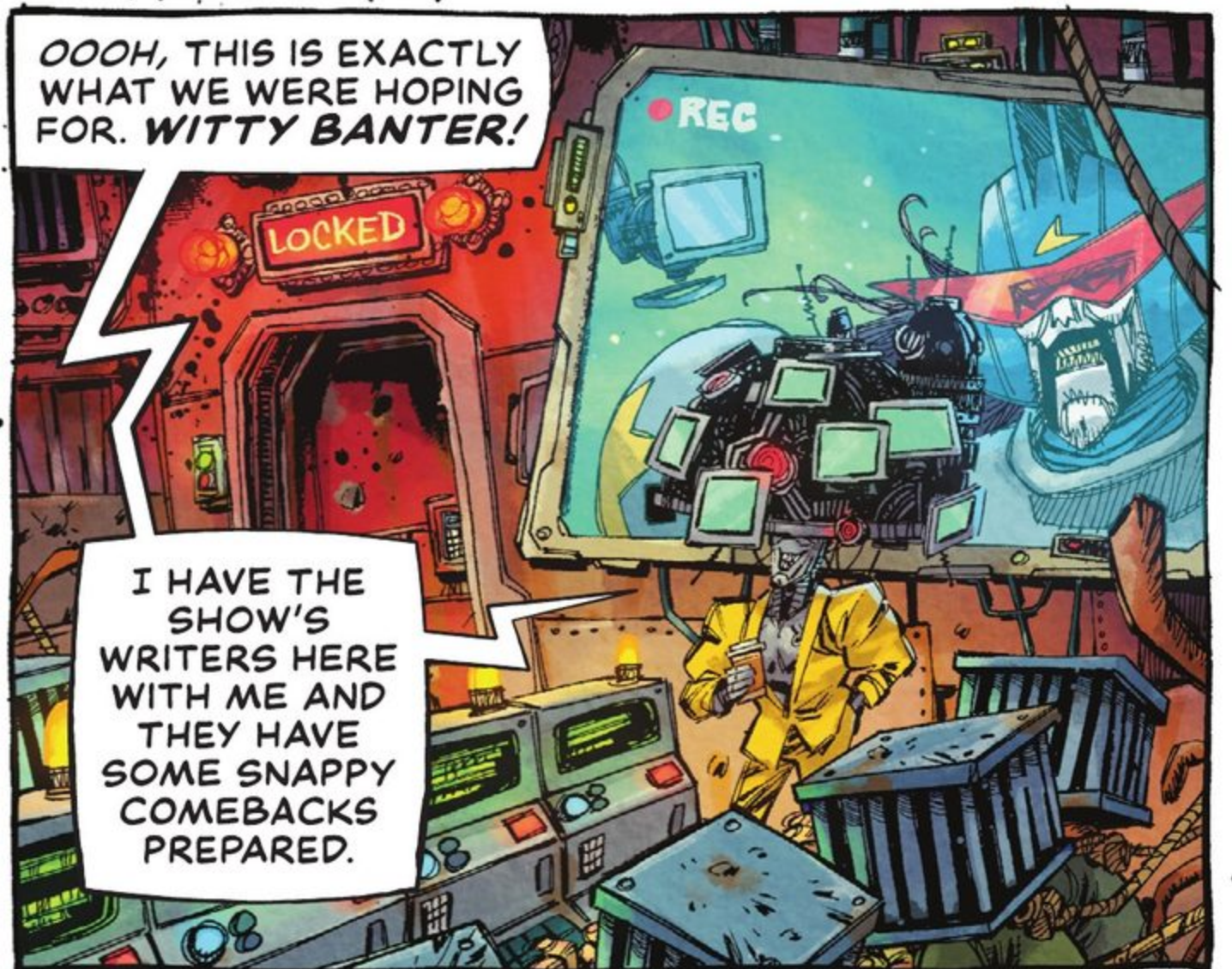
WHAT DO YOU
SAY? WANT
TO UP THOSE
RATINGS BY
BOUNTING...



EMPEROR
AQUAMAN!

HUH?

YER
HEREBY
INFORMED
THAT A BOUNTY
HAS BEEN PUT
ON YOU
FOR--





YES.
IT IS.



HA HA
HA HAA!



HA HA HA
HAAA!

HA HAA!



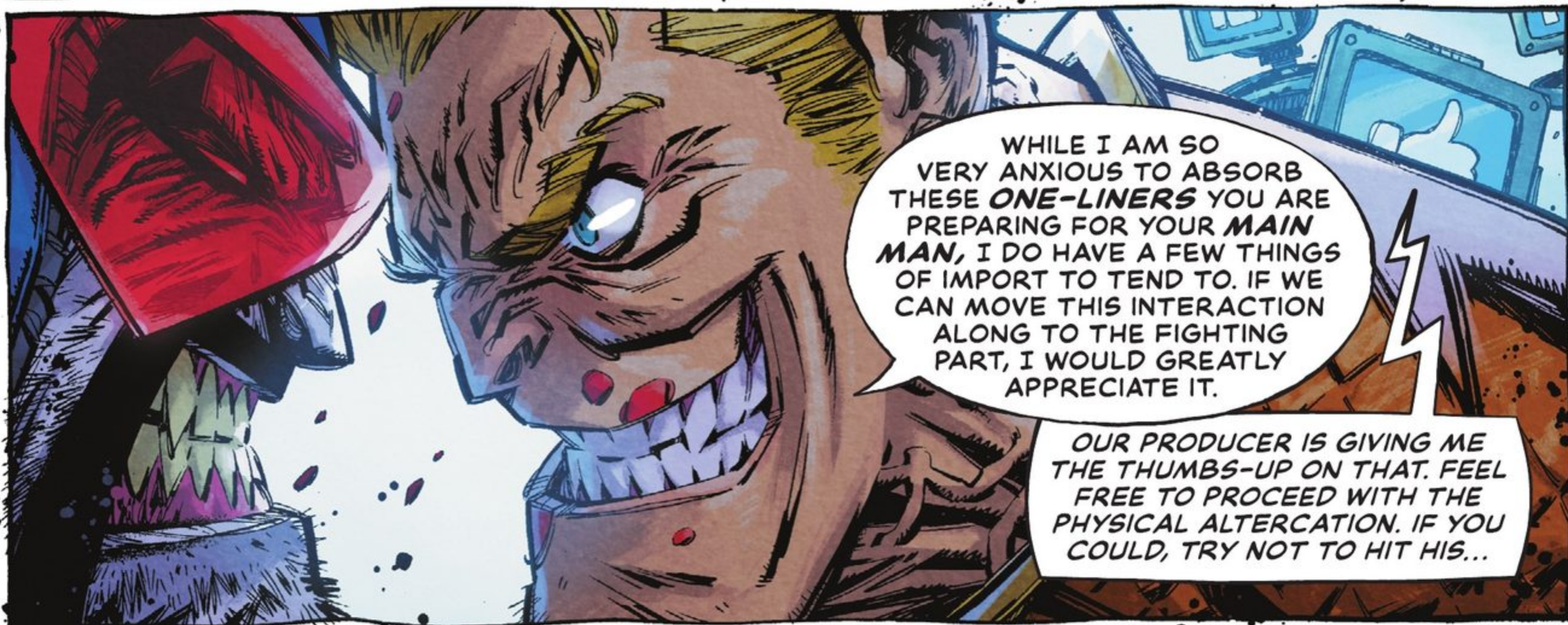
GRRRR



AH! YOU'D LIKE TO
ENTER INTO COMBAT NOW!
I THOUGHT YOU'D PREFER TO
WAIT UNTIL THOSE **BRASS
BALLS** DELIVER YOUR LINES
OF **WITTY BANTER!**

THANK YOU,
AQUAMAN.

LOBO, PLEASE HOLD FOR
SUGGESTIONS. THE WRITERS
ARE WORKING ON A **FISH
STICK OR FISH AND CHIPS**
JOKE RIGHT NOW. JUST A FEW
MORE MOMENTS AND
WE'LL HAVE IT.



WHILE I AM SO
VERY ANXIOUS TO ABSORB
THESE **ONE-LINERS** YOU ARE
PREPARING FOR YOUR **MAIN
MAN**, I DO HAVE A FEW THINGS
OF IMPORT TO TEND TO. IF WE
CAN MOVE THIS INTERACTION
ALONG TO THE FIGHTING
PART, I WOULD GREATLY
APPRECIATE IT.

OUR PRODUCER IS GIVING ME
THE THUMBS-UP ON THAT. FEEL
FREE TO PROCEED WITH THE
PHYSICAL ALTERCATION. IF YOU
COULD, TRY NOT TO HIT HIS...





SHOULD WE JUMP IN, LORI?

I JUST GOT MY FINS DONE, SO I'M A PASS. YOU DO YOU.



"ARTHUR LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOT IT."



"WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR FINS DONE? MINE ARE LOOKING A MESS."



"CHLOE'S NAILS AND SCALES."



"I'LL CHECK IT OUT."





BACK AT O.O.E.C. HEADQUARTERS.

FRAGGING CANCELED?! WAS IT 'CAUSE OF ME CALLIN' THE HYDROPIAN WHAT I CALLED HER?

NO. STANDARDS AND PRACTICES WERE FINE WITH THAT.

AH--'CAUSE OF ME PULLIN' OUT MY SITUATION IN FRONT OF THAT PRIESTESS IN THE ANCIENT TEMPLE OF THE ALMIGHTY EXHAUSTED ONE?

NO. THAT ONE ACTUALLY **GAINED** US A FEW SPONSORS.

THEN WHAT WAS IT?

O.O.E.C. IS UNDERGOING A MERGER WITH **G.R.P.** AND THEY WANT TO USE OUR CONTROL OF THE BOUNTY AND BONDS BUSINESS TO PLUG IN THEIR CURRENT I.P.

I GOT CANNED 'CAUSE THE **RODENT** WANTS TO BACK THAT **CLOWN SHOW**?!

YES. IN ALL FAIRNESS TO YOU, WE ARE TAKING FULL RESPONSIBILITY.

OH, ARE YA NOW? LET ME GUESS...



YOU GOT YER UNDIES IN A BUNCH WHEN **FISTY 'N MOUTH** STARTED MAKING ALL THE DOUGH. THOUGHT TO YOURSELF, LET'S GET IN ON THE ACTION.

YOU THREW SOME BREAD AT **THIS GUY**, WHO COULDA AND **WOULDA** GOT YOU EVERYTHING YA WANTED IF YA WOULD LET HIM DO HIS THING. BUT...



...INSTEAD YOU TOOK ONE OF THE MOST BRUTAL AND IN-DEMAND **MOTHER FRAGGERS** IN THE COSMOS, PUT HIM IN A UNITARD, AND SENT HIM OUT TO FIND DENTURES IN COUCH CUSHIONS FOR OLD LADIES.

YES, BUT THE COMMITTEE BELIEVED THAT--

YOU SUITS ARE ALL THA SAME. YOU SEE SOMETHING WORKIN', WANT YOUR VERSION OF IT, AND COME LOOKING FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME.

I GOT NEWS FOR YOU, BOOB TUBE. YOU CAN PUT AS MUCH LIPSTICK ON A PIG AS YER LI'L HEART DESIRES-- BUT IN THE END, COMMITTEE OR NOT...

GAWD FORBID YOU JUST TAKE WHAT YA PAID FOR! BUT NOOOOO! YOU GOTTA GET ALL COMMITTEE'D UP AND START FEELING YERSELVES LIKE ANY IDEA YOU'VE EVER HAD WAS WORTH A **SCHLIT!**

...LOBO'S GONNA **LOBO!**

WHILE I APPRECIATE YOUR FAIRLY ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF HOW ALL THIS CAME TO BE, IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT YOUR SERVICES ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED AND THE BOARD HAS REQUESTED THAT YOU LEAVE THE PREMISES ASAP. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN--

ERR...
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?

TAP
TAP

OH, NOTHING. JUST CHECKIN' TO SEE IF THIS MEETIN' WAS ONE OF THOSE **PROJECTORIAL** HOLOGRAM SITUATIONS.

UM, NO. I'M
HERE IN THE
TECHNOFLESH.

DAAAAANG.
BAD CALL ON
YER PART,
KZZT.

WHY'S
THAT?



THAT'S FRAGGIN' SHOWBIZ

STORY
SKOTIE YUNG

ART
JORGE CORONA

COLORS
**JEAN-FRANCOIS
BEAULIEU**

LETTERING
NATE PEKOS
OF BLAMBOT™

NO
PROBLEM,
LADY.

COVER
**JORGE CORONA &
JEAN-FRANCOIS BEAULIEU**

VARIANT COVERS
**LEE BERMEJO, SWEENEY BOO,
TYLER KIRKHAM & ARIF PRIANTO**

ASSISTANT EDITOR
JAMES REID

EDITOR
KATHLEEN WISNESKI

GROUP EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI

LOBO created by
Roger Slifer and
Keith Giffen.



I LOVE
MAGIC.

MAGIC
IS BOUNDLESS
WONDER. MAGIC
IS UNFATHOMABLE
HORROR. MAGIC
IS UNFETTERED
KNOWLEDGE.

YET,
MAGIC HAS
LOST SOME-
THING.

7 IN ERAS PAST, MAGIC CALLED
UPON INDIVIDUALS TO OVERSEE AND
GUIDE IT. THEY WERE KNOWN AS
OVERSEERS OF THE REALMS, ONES
SEEN BY MAGIC, THE GREATEST OF
MAGES: **THE PRIME MAGUS.**

THERE HASN'T
BEEN A PRIME
MAGUS IN OVER
A MILLENNIUM.

I THINK
IT'S LONG PAST
TIME I CHANGED
THAT.

ZATANNA

#1 Preview

WRITER/ARTIST
JAMAL CAMPBELL
LETTERER
ARIANA MAHER

COME ONE, COME ALL!
WITNESS THE GREATEST
MAGICAL TOUR TO EVER GRACE
THE REALMS OF MAGIC!

VIA THE GLAMOUR-LIT
STAGE OF THE WANDERING
SHADOWCREST THEATER...

MAKE SOME NOISE
FOR OUR BRAND NEW
PRIME MAGUS...

...ZATANNA
ZATARA, THE
GREATEST!

NO REALM IS TOO SMALL TO
RECEIVE HER PROTECTION, FOR
THE PRIME MAGUS VOWS TO
BE A SHIELD FOR ALL!

NO MORTAL IS TOO
ILL-FATED TO RECEIVE
HER BLESSINGS, FOR THE
PRIME MAGUS VOWS
TO BE AN AID TO ALL!

NO GOD-THING IS TOO PROUD
TO HEAR TO HER WORDS, FOR
THE PRIME MAGUS VOWS
TO BE A VOICE FOR ALL!

NO MONSTER IS TOO DAMNED TO
ESCAPE HER JUSTICE, FOR THE PRIME
MAGUS VOWS TO BE A SWORD FOR ALL!

WHERE WILL SHE
STOP NEXT? WHERE SHE
IS NEEDED MOST.

RAVEN-1
TO BE A TEAM
STATUE



REPEAT.
BETA TEAM,
WHAT IS YOUR
STATUS?



EHH,
PREEETTY
SURE THEY'RE
ALL DEAD.

DAMMIT!
AGENT RHODES,
THE TARGET WAS
LAST SIGHTED
ON--

STAND
DOWN.

BUT--!



I'VE GOT EYES
ON A THIRD PARTY
APPROACHING THE
TARGET.



IT'S
HER



SO, LET'S
JUST SIT-BACK
AND ENJOY THE
SHOW.

CRUNCH

CRUNCH



THGIL.

TO BE
CONTINUED IN

ZATANNA #1

ON
SALE IN
APRIL!



TATJANA WOOD

Remembering a Legend

In the Words of Friends, Collaborators, and Those She Inspired
1926-2026

"Tatjana was a trailblazer; her impact and influence are immeasurable. With her fine artist's touch and evocative palette, she made every story better."

—**Karen Berger** (editor, *Swamp Thing*, *Animal Man*, *Wonder Woman*, and more)

"I have to thank Tatjana for making me and many other artists look good. Her work was exemplary."

—**Brian Bolland** (artist, *Camelot 3000* and more)

"I never had to worry about whether the coloring would be good or not; she spoiled me in that regard."

—**Nancy A. Collins** (writer, *Swamp Thing*)

"I remember her fondly. With her dark, smoky voice and awesome color sense. With a limited palette and a lot of talent. She did miracles."

—**Denys Cowan** (artist, *The Question*)

"One of the greatest comic book colorists of the last century. When I found out Tatjana would be working on *The Warlord*, it made me want to do better work, and she always gave back more than she got."

—**Mike Grell** (writer/artist, *The Warlord*)

"Tatjana Wood was as vital to the legacy of *Swamp Thing* as any writer or artist. She was the through line connecting so many great eras of the title. Her work was the epitome of accentuating the line art without upstaging it. A true master. I count myself lucky to have worked with her."

—**Phil Hester** (artist, *Swamp Thing*)

"Underrated, except by history. Undervalued, except by her peers. She has been an inspiration to my journey, and so many others'."

—**Richard Horie** (colorist)

"Tatjana Wood was a storyteller. Her aesthetics were pure and stunning, her approach nuanced and innovative. Through masterful use of hue and value, without the shortcuts of modern technological effects, she defined a new frontier in coloring."

—**Marie Javins** (DC Comics editor-in-chief, colorist)

"I remember being around 10-12 years old, picking up the phone (usually after dinner), and hearing a gravelly woman's voice ask very nicely to speak to my father. I asked who she was. He said she was the best colorist in the business. I'm pretty sure my dad had Tatjana color everything he drew, and for that very good reason."

—**Andy Kubert** (artist, son of Joe Kubert)

"Tatjana made the world more beautiful, one brushstroke or gesture at a time."

—**Paul Levitz** (editor, *Swamp Thing*)

"She had an extremely limited palette to work with in those days, and the way she utilized those limitations proved masterful. Complete legend."

—**Lee Loughridge** (colorist)

"She was smart, talented, funny, and as nice to a then-young editor as I possibly could have hoped for. Just the best."

—**Stuart Moore** (editor, *Swamp Thing*, *BrainBanx*, and more)

"Words can't describe how impressive her work was. She managed to make magic from an extremely limited palette and almost none of the special effects that modern colorists take for granted."

—**Trish Mulvihill** (colorist, *Swamp Thing* 1989)

"Besides being one of the very best in her field, Tatjana was funny, creative, and wise. I was so lucky to know her."

—**Tom Peyer** (editor, *Swamp Thing*, *Animal Man*, and more)

"Tatjana colored the first comic I drew for DC and managed to pull my haphazard linework into beautiful, coherent pages. She took the trouble to pass on advice and help for how to navigate color comics linework, advice I am grateful for and still use!"

—**Steve Pugh** (artist, *Animal Man*)

"Tatjana stands at the forefront of the comic book industry's greatest colorists, whose work was produced during an era before computer coloring made that job much easier. Bless you and thank you, Tatjana, for all the beautiful work you've done throughout your amazing career."

—**John Totleben** (inker/artist, *Swamp Thing*)

"Tatjana's coloring was wonderfully subtle and muted; her colors perfectly complemented the line art and helped tell the story."

—**Chaz Truog** (artist, *Animal Man*)

"Tatjana understood the elegant beauty of the old-style coloring system better than anyone."

—**Rick Veitch** (writer/artist, *Swamp Thing*)

"Tatjana Wood was one of the great colorists who defined the aesthetics of mainstream comics during the late Silver Age and early Bronze Age."

—**José Villarrubia** (colorist, remastering *Swamp Thing*)

"Tatjana's coloring helped make all of us on *Swamp Thing*, including [Bernie] Wrightson, look good. A beautiful spirit that created beauty out of pulp ingredients."

—**Thomas Yeates** (artist, *Swamp Thing*)



A LOST CLASSIC DECADES IN THE MAKING—THE LONG-AWAITED
ISSUES #88-91 ARRIVE, AND THE AMBITIOUS FINAL EPIC BEGINS!

SWAMP THING

1989

Written by
RICK VEITCH

Art by
MICHAEL ZULLI
VINCE LOCKE
TOM MANDRAKE

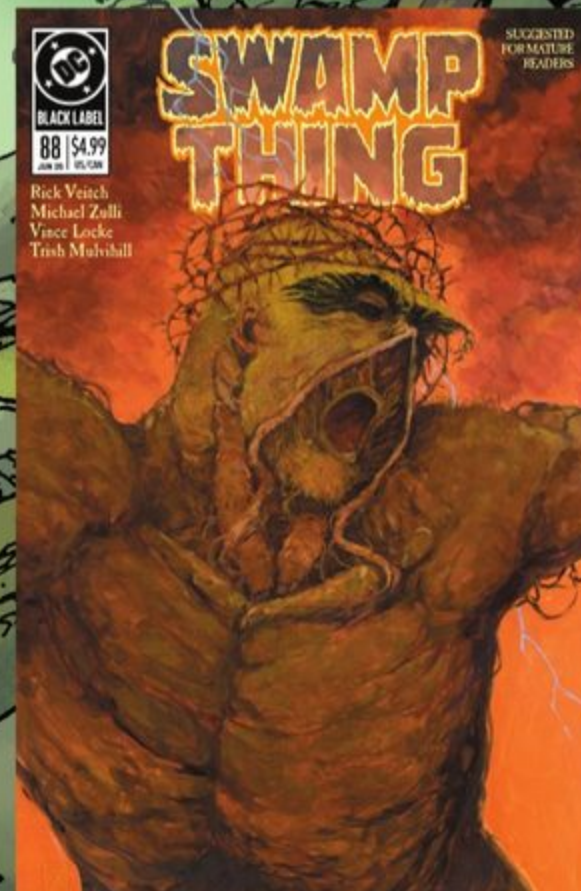
Variant cover by
MICHAEL ZULLI



**BLACK
LABEL**

Ages 17+

Presented in period-
accurate trade dress
4 issues monthly
beginning
APRIL



**NATION****SPOTLIGHT ON****NEXT
LEVEL**

THE FURY OF FIRESTORM

INTERVIEW WITH **JEFF LEMIRE** AND **RAFAEL DE LATORRE**

Firestorm burns brighter, and more dangerously, than ever in *The Fury of Firestorm*, a bold new Next Level series from writer Jeff Lemire and artist Rafael De Latorre. Blending psychological horror, atomic-level spectacle, and a deep reverence for the hero's legacy, the series pushes one of DC's most volatile characters to his breaking point. When the Firestorm matrix begins to evolve beyond control, the fallout will reshape everything.

A HERO REIGNITED.

JEFF LEMIRE: This is a character I've loved since I was a kid in the '80s. I've always found him fascinating. There have been many versions of Firestorm over the years, and when I started talking with Scott Snyder and our DC editors, Andrew Marino and Marquis Draper, about Next Level, Firestorm came up. Andrew and Marquis are huge fans, and so am I.

We started thinking about how we could celebrate everything we love about the character while also doing something fresh, bold, and accessible to a new generation of readers. I challenged myself to really push it, and having Rafael as my partner made that easier. He's such a versatile artist; he can move between styles and bring different takes to the character in a really dynamic way.



LEMIRE: In the first issue, we learn that Ronnie is trying to control Firestorm on his own for the first time. He doesn't have a copilot, and as a result, he's losing control. The Firestorm matrix may have become sentient and autonomous, and Ronnie is buried deep inside.

From there, Firehawk, Lorraine Reilly, embarks on a desperate search across the DC Universe for Professor Stein, believing he may be the only one who can help Ronnie.

ATOMIC-LEVEL STAKES.

LEMIRE: What's always fascinated me about Firestorm is that at its heart, it's a story about identity. Traditionally, it's two people merged into one, fighting for control of the incredibly powerful Firestorm matrix. There have been different iterations over the years, but the one constant is change. Firestorm is always evolving, always in flux.

He's also one of the most underrated characters in terms of power level. At his base, he can manipulate reality at the atomic level, and the only real limit to that power is whoever's in control of it.

PAST AND PRESENT COLLIDE.

LEMIRE: On a fun meta level, while all this is happening in the present-day DC Universe, Ronnie is trapped inside the matrix, reliving his classic adventures. He's stuck in a loop the matrix has created to keep him subservient.

It allows us to celebrate Firestorm's past and revisit the different versions of the character over the years while pushing him into something new.



REALITY REIMAGINED.

RAFAEL DE LATORRE: It's been such a pleasure working on this project. When the idea was pitched to me, I was instantly hooked; it had so much potential. I also have to mention the incredible work colorist Marcelo Maiolo has done on these pages. We're close friends, and we talked a lot about exploring different styles throughout the book.

That's been one of the most exciting parts of the process, playing with different realities and leaning into different storytelling approaches. The colors really elevate that. They're pretty amazing.



NO COPILOT. NO CONTROL.

LEMIRE: That kind of power can be terrifying, and I started wondering what would happen if it went wrong, if Ronnie Raymond and Professor Stein lost control. In our story, Firestorm walks into a small town in Colorado and begins experimenting, first with objects, then with people. There's definitely a horror element to the book.



**DON'T MISS
THE FURY OF FIRESTORM,
ON SALE MONTHLY!**

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